

MASSACHUSETTS
COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND.
THIRD ANNUAL REPORT.



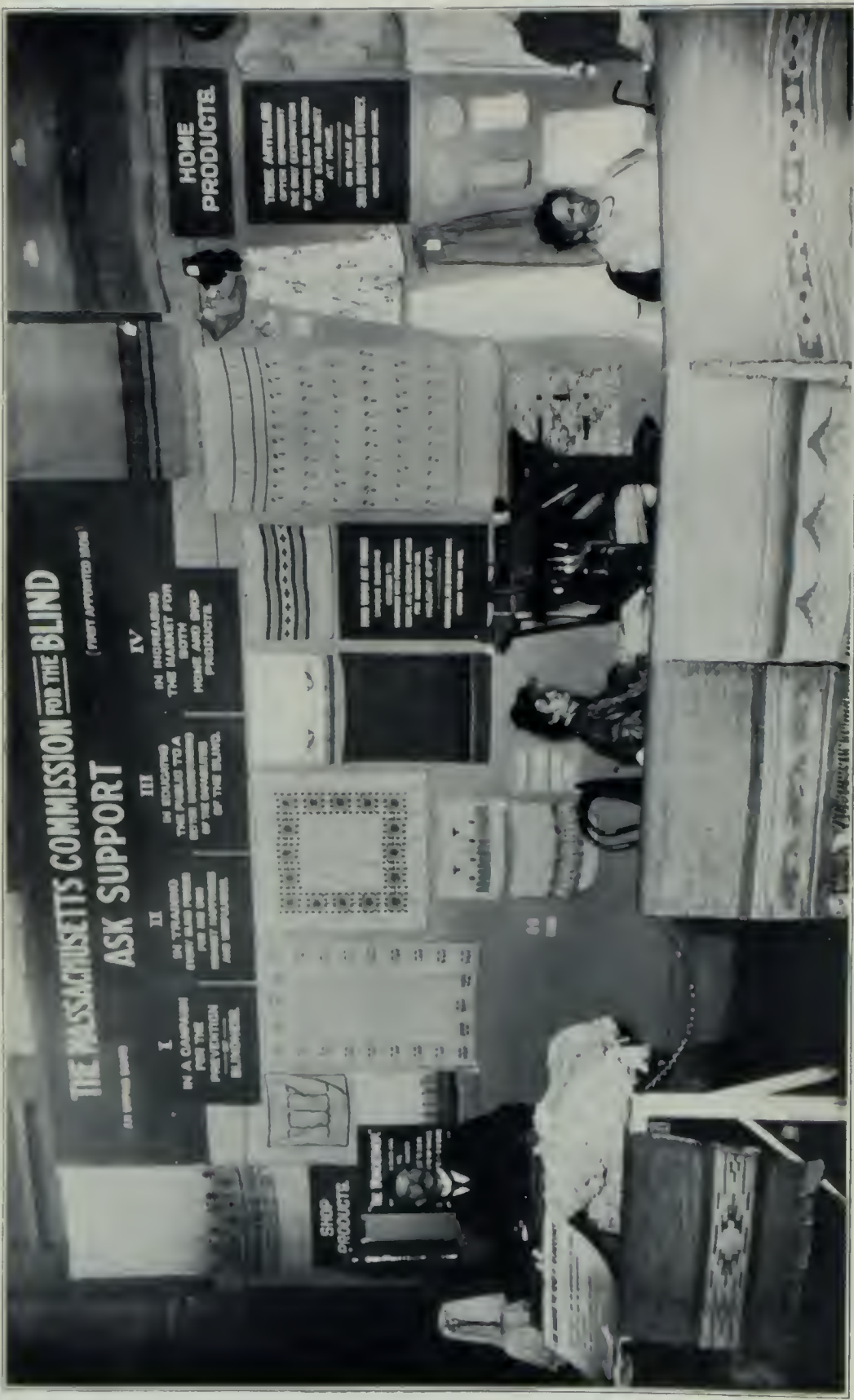
FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOV. 30, 1909.

BOSTON:

WRIGHT & POTTER PRINTING CO., STATE PRINTERS,

18 POST OFFICE SQUARE.

1910.



BOSTON 1915 EXHIBIT, WITH THREE BLIND DEMONSTRATORS.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND.

JAMES P. MUNROE of Lexington, *Chairman*, . . . Term ends 1912.
Miss ANNETTE P. ROGERS of Boston, . . . Term ends 1914.
Mrs. JOHN T. PRINCE of West Newton, . . . Term ends 1910.
WALTER B. SNOW of Watertown, *Secretary*, . . . Term ends 1911.
EDWARD E. ALLEN of Boston, . . . Term ends 1913.

Regular meetings of the commission are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, at 309 Ford Building, 15 Ashburton Place, Boston.

Telephone, Haymarket 831.

Private branch exchange connecting central office and Cambridge workshops, listed under Massachusetts Commission for the Blind.

DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION.

LUCY WRIGHT, *Superintendent*.

LOTTA S. RAND, *Deputy Superintendent*.

ANNIE L. SANBORN,¹ *Special Agent for Children* (privately paid).

CLARA S. ROBBINS, FRANCIS J. ROCHFORD,² *Stenographers*.

GRACE E. SNOW,² *Switchboard Operator*.

INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.

CHARLES F. F. CAMPBELL, *Superintendent*.

CHARLES W. HOLMES,² *Deputy Superintendent*.

LENA E. MENDELSON, *Deputy Superintendent*.

GEORGE S. MANSFIELD, *Distributing Agent*.

¹ Died Jan. 1, 1910.

² Blind or partially blind workers.

I. CENTRAL OFFICE.

The central office is located at 309 Ford Building, 15 Ashburton Place, Boston.

Applications may be made at the central office: (1) for information in regard to the various general and special agencies already organized which may be utilized for the benefit of the blind; (2) for employment; (3) for educational and industrial aid; and (4) for the use of the salesroom at 383 Boylston Street, for consignment of home products.

II. EMPLOYMENT.

There are three general divisions into which the possibilities of employment of the blind naturally fall: (1) among the seeing, either along professional lines, in offices, in shops or otherwise; (2) in shops for the blind; (3) in home industries or individual occupations.

Applications for employment will be carefully considered, and every effort made to secure suitable work for the applicant. In the first case, personal effort of one of the commission's representatives will be made on behalf of the applicant. In the second, a position will be secured when possible in some workshop for the blind. (See "Workshops.") In the third, suitable training and subsequent facilities for establishment in the trade taught may be provided by the commission, at its discretion and under such conditions as it shall determine. (See "Shop Schools and Industrial Classes.")

III. SALESROOM. — MASSACHUSETTS INDUSTRIES FOR THE BLIND,
383 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON.

Arrangements have been made by which articles made by the blind in their homes and in the shops of the commission are exhibited for sale at the salesroom of the Perkins Institution. All articles must be submitted for inspection and must come up to reasonable standards as regards style and workmanship. Original applications for the consignment of home work should be made, as heretofore, at the commission's office.

FLORENCE CUMMINGS, *Commission's Agent.*

IV. WORKSHOPS.

Cambridge. — For men, at 686 Massachusetts Avenue (Central Square), where rugs, mops and brooms are made and chairs re-seated.

JAMES T. COLE, *Local Superintendent.*

P. J. O'NEILL,¹ *Foreman, Broom Shop.*

K. R. SMITH,¹ *Foreman, Mop Shop.*

E. D. STICKNEY,¹ *Canvasser.*

JOHN PENDERGAST,¹ *Mop Agent.*

¹ Blind or partially blind workers.

Cambridge. — For women, at 277 Harvard Street (corner Inman), where hand weaving is carried on.

H. FRANCES LEWIS, *Local Superintendent.*

CARMELA VALVA, *Designer for both Cambridge shops.*

Pittsfield. — For men, at 24 Dunham Street, where chairs are re-seated and mattresses renovated.

WALTER D. ROWLAND, *Local Superintendent.*

JAMES A. WILKINS,¹ *Foreman.*

Lowell. — At 98 Central Street, for the employment of local blind workmen.

IRA W. GOLDTHWAIT, *Local Superintendent.*

HENRY G. BURKE,¹ *Foreman.*

Worcester. — At 194 Front Street, for the employment of local blind workmen.

CLIFTON L. NOURSE, *Local Clerical Assistant.*

DANIEL SCOTT,¹ *Foreman.*

Fall River. — At 801 North Main Street, for the employment of local blind workmen.

JOSEPH A. BOUTIN,¹ *Foreman.*

Chair seating and mattress work are the chief industries of the shops, other than Cambridge.

V. SHOP SCHOOLS AND INDUSTRIAL CLASSES.

Instruction in chair seating and mattress making is given to a limited number of pupils, with a view to home employment in these industries. Training is given in rug, mop and broom making, and in art fabric weaving as vacancies occur in the various workshops and as the business expands.

¹ Blind or partially blind workers.

REPORT.

His Excellency the Governor, and the Honorable the Members of the Council.

GENTLEMEN:—The Massachusetts Commission for the Blind begs leave to submit the following report, covering the fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1909.

The commission, created under chapter 385 of the Acts of 1906, is authorized “to prepare and maintain a register of the blind in Massachusetts . . . to act as a bureau of information and industrial aid . . . to establish, equip, and maintain one or more schools for industrial training, and workshops for the employment of blind persons . . . to devise means for the sale and distribution of the products of such schools and workshops . . . to ameliorate the condition of the blind by devising means to facilitate the circulation of books, by promoting visits among the aged or helpless blind in their homes, and by such other methods as it may deem expedient: *provided*, that the commission shall not undertake the permanent support or maintenance of any blind person . . . The members of the board shall receive no compensation for their services.”

The personnel of the commission is unchanged from that of the second annual report, with the exception of Dr. J. H. A. Matte of North Adams, who, after very faithful and efficient service from the beginning, felt compelled, by the demands of his profession, to resign in December, 1908. To the vacancy thus created the Governor and Council appointed Mr. Edward E. Allen, director of the Perkins Institution and Massachusetts School for the Blind.

SUMMARY OUTLINE OF COMMISSION'S WORK, DEC. 1, 1908, TO
Nov. 30, 1909.

The commission has been in touch with 784 blind persons this year, and of especially active service to 380, many of whom have been helped substantially in several ways.

	Persons.	Individuals not counted elsewhere.
I. Results:—		
Training has been given or expenses provided during training (8 of whom have received training in two or more branches) to	40	40
Regular employment has been given to or secured for . . .	81	68
Temporary work has been given or secured for . . .	22	15
Home industry has been fostered by loans, equipment, use of canvasser, use of salesroom, etc. (27 of whom have been helped in more than one way), for	123	96
Information and advice of more than a passing nature about occupations, boarding places, etc., has been given to . . .	58	39
Reported to other agencies for the blind, . . .	96	65
Reported to general agencies, . . .	19	12
Recreations, Symphony and other concert tickets, outings, vacations, etc., have been given by others through the commission to . . .	129	45
		— 380
II. Pending for various reasons (work, supervision, etc.), . . .	167	146
III. No results, because died, removed, incapacitated, etc., . . .	280	258
		— 404
		784

SUMMARY OF DISBURSEMENTS.

APPROPRIATION FOR GENERAL EXPENSES.

Administration department:—

Maintenance of general offices, salaries of superintendents (including three blind persons), travelling expenses, exhibits and office furnishings, . . . \$11,653 06

Industrial and educational aid, and maintenance
of training classes:—

a. Board and lodging of apprentices, special
wages to blind, guiding, etc., . . . \$3,539 10

b. Toward maintenance of salesroom, etc., . . . 685 61

c. Equipment purchased and distributed
for training at home, and stock and
tools furnished to blind persons started
in business, . . . 268 75

d. Cobbling class, . . . 968 71

e. Chair caning at Cambridge, . . . 156 92

Amounts carried forward, . . . \$5,619 09 \$11,653 06

Amounts brought forward, \$5,619 09 \$11,653 06

Industrial and educational aid, and maintenance
of training classes — *Con.*

<i>f.</i> Home work for women; cost of training and distribution of products, . . .	1,281 54	
<i>g.</i> Pittsfield workshop and training school, .	3,792 78	
<i>h.</i> Lowell workshop,	1,255 09	
<i>i.</i> Worcester workshop,	1,042 51	
<i>j.</i> Fall River workshop (two months), .	355 93	
	<hr/>	13,346 94
Total general appropriation,		\$25,000 00
Towards maintenance of industries (see financial report),		20,000 00
		<hr/>
		\$45,000 00

The commission is glad to be able to report this year a considerable increase in the direct earnings of the blind over those of a year ago. Last year blind men and women employed through its various departments received \$13,769.98. This year these same earnings were increased to \$19,502.52. The earnings of blind men placed in outside factory positions for the year amounted to more than \$2,500. This makes a total of \$22,002.52 earned by the blind through the efforts of the commission. See table following: —

Regular salaries paid blind employees (not in- dustrial department),	\$5,598 74	
Order work at home, obtained through salesroom,	\$592 47	
Earnings of blind consignors, through salesroom,	684 76	
	<hr/>	1,277 23
Piece-work earnings at commission's shops (not industrial department),	1,530 63	
Salaries, wages and commissions on sales paid to blind employees in industrial department, .	11,095 92	
	<hr/>	\$19,502 52
Earnings of blind placed in outside factory positions (minimum estimate),		2,500 00
		<hr/>
Total,		\$22,002 52

In order that the commission may closely follow the workings of the industrial department, an account of stock on hand, etc., is taken semi-annually. This divides the year into two periods, and shows the comparative results of each period.

Therefore, attention is called to the fact that the increased net cost of maintenance of 1908-09 is largely due to a forced cut-down in manufacture during the first half of the year. In order that the finished stock on hand Dec. 1, 1908 (amounting to over \$14,000), might not be increased, the manufacturing at the men's shops in Cambridge was kept down to the amount of sales which could not be filled from merchandise on hand. For instance, the output of the mop shop was cut down 60 per cent., although no reduction was made in wages paid to the blind. Such conditions helped to make the net cost of maintenance \$8,854.47 for the first half year; subtract this figure from \$15,791.56, the total cost for the year, and it will be seen that the second period, under more normal conditions, made a better showing, in costing only \$6,937.09, with sales of \$18,076.30, against sales of \$14,408.17 for the first half year. It is encouraging to record that the sales for 1908-09 show an increase of 92 per cent. over those of the previous year.

GENERAL SURVEY.

During the three and a half years since its creation the commission has maintained a register of blind persons in the Commonwealth, which now contains 4,312 names.¹ Concerning most of these it has accurate and somewhat detailed information. This list is in continued process of revision and amplification, and names are added to it at an average of about five each week. Valuable in many ways, the essential service of this register is as a basis for intelligent action on the part of the commission.

Analyzing these names, there are found among them, first, many men and women who, by fortune of circumstance, are able to secure for themselves all the aids and ameliorations which blindness requires; and, secondly, a much greater number who by their own exertions have secured not only an adequate income, but also that purposeful activity which is fundamental to happiness. Neither of these classes, of course, has need of the

¹ See Appendix A, p. 24, for comments.

commission; but from both comes much invaluable assistance; while in the latter is found the chief inspiration for unceasing effort towards preparing an ever larger proportion of the blind for active independence.

The remaining names upon the list divide themselves, roughly, into: children receiving, or needing, proper education; able-bodied men and women receiving, or requiring, industrial training or temporary co-operation; adults receiving, or needing, employment under direct or indirect supervision; mentally deficient or industrially incompetent persons, many of them able to earn something, but requiring supplementary aid; the sick and aged, receiving, or needing, shelter and care.

CHILDREN.

A large proportion of the blind children in the Commonwealth are being adequately educated in the Perkins Institution and Massachusetts School for the Blind, supplemented by the Nursery for Blind Babies, which provides care and training for needy blind children under school age. Since admission to the Perkins Institution is, however, voluntary, the investigations of the commission show that there are children in Massachusetts with varying degrees of eye defect who are not receiving continuous education at the Perkins Institution or in public or private schools, and who need oversight until they are placed in one school or another. A special inquiry, conducted by the commission in 1907,¹ resulted in finding 25 fit candidates for Perkins; and there are always coming to its notice new cases needing careful investigation. Through private generosity, the commission has been enabled to employ, since September of this year, a specially trained agent, Miss Annie L. Sanborn, to follow up these children, and to endeavor to secure their being sent either to Perkins or to other schools where they may receive proper teaching. A statute² (chapter 383, Acts of 1906) deals specifically with such cases, but it has never been tested in the courts; and meanwhile the laxity of local authorities has permitted quite a number of children to remain untaught.³

¹ See first annual report, p. 17.

² See Appendix F, p. 54.

³ In this connection, see Appendix A, p. 33.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

As shown in the first report of the commission, over 77 per cent. of blindness occurs after twenty years of age; and the pressing need of a large proportion of these adults is for that special industrial training which may enable them to earn a living under the changed condition of their lives. To that end, the commission has continued the training shop at Pittsfield, and for a part of the year has maintained instruction in cobbling at the Cambridge shop for men. Limitations of space have made it necessary, however, to discontinue the cobbling class, and when it is resumed it will probably be as an industry and training class combined, after the plan of the Cambridge broom shop.

At Pittsfield there have been trained during the year 8 men. Since considerable expense, among other disadvantages, is involved in sending pupils from eastern Massachusetts to that point to be taught, it is planned to open a second training school in connection with the shop at Worcester.

It should not be overlooked, however, that every one of the shops maintained by the commission is also in fact a school, and that the large proportion of apprentices always in training in the shops not only requires more sighted supervision than would otherwise be needed, but also maintains at an abnormally high level the cost of production. The total number of pupils and apprentices during the year has been 40.

TEMPORARY CO-OPERATION.

Equipment, Stock, etc.

The commission endeavors to co-operate with the blind through friendly visiting and advice; through loans of tools and equipment; through the furnishing of initial stocks in trade; through solicitors for, and through advertising of, their work; and through selling to workmen at wholesale prices material which they would otherwise be compelled to buy at retail. While the furnishing of material has been carried on quite extensively, notably in the case of women doing work at home, it is believed that there is opportunity for greater useful-

ness in this direction, and it is planned to enlarge that form of help.

Following is a summary of co-operative assistance given during the past year:—

Home Industries fostered.

	Number in Groups.	Not counted elsewhere.
By equipment, stock at wholesale, etc., to,	20	20
By securing increased patronage in established occupation.	24	23
By use of commission's canvasser,	12	3
By training, materials and sale of home work through salesroom.	80	77 —123

Home Teaching.

Another most important, though somewhat intangible, form of co-operation is in teaching those deprived of sight in adult life how to be blind. Much of this is done already by the home teachers, for whose employment, under direction of the Perkins Institution, the State appropriates each year \$5,000. These teachers go to the homes of the adult blind, training them to read raised type and to employ their hands; but their visits are necessarily too infrequent and too short to put the blind in that sound mental attitude which must precede thorough re-adjustment to the new conditions of life. Much more could and should be done in this direction, through the extension of field work and home teaching and through the formation of local committees of interested citizens. With a view to such extension, and believing, also, that not a little economy would result from placing the home teaching under the direction of the commission, this body seconded the effort made by the Perkins Institution before the last session of the Legislature to have the annual grant for home teaching of the blind transferred from their control to that of the commission. While this would materially add to the responsibilities of the commission, it could hardly fail to result in a more effective use of the State's resources for the blind.¹

¹ In this connection, see "Home Work," p. 16; also Appendix A, p. 35.

EMPLOYMENT UNDER DIRECT SUPERVISION.

The Cambridge Shops.

The output in the shop for men at 686 Massachusetts Avenue, and in the shop for women at 277 Harvard Street, has been very materially increased during 1909, owing to an extended market for the goods produced. In the shop for weaving "Cambridge" rugs, 9 blind men are regularly employed as weavers and 3 blind women as finishers. In the "Wundermop" shop 5 blind men are regularly employed. The "Cantabrigia" broom shop gives steady employment to 6 men; while in the shop for the weaving of art fabrics 12 blind women are continuously employed. In addition, as already stated, there was during the first half of the year a cobbling class at the Massachusetts Avenue shop, in connection with which some custom work was done; and a blind caner is now employed there, doing custom work; and several general helpers.

During 1909, regular or temporary employment was provided in the Cambridge shops for 48 workers and instruction was given to 23 apprentices. At the beginning of 1910, 44 blind employees are on the pay roll. The total wages received by the blind connected with the Cambridge shops, during 1909, amounted to \$11,095.92.

The Problem of Selling.

Until within a little more than a year the products of the Cambridge shops were marketed mainly through the salesroom of the commission at 383 Boylston Street, Boston,¹ through a few blind agents, and through consignment to salesrooms in other cities. In 1908 the commission secured the services of Mr. George S. Mansfield as distributing agent, to deal in a larger way with the output through jobbers and wholesalers. Moreover, during the past summer systematic plans were put into effect for selling the art fabrics at summer hotels and private houses, — plans which are being extended to include some of the principal winter resorts. Furthermore, through the generous help of Mrs. William Hooper and other friends, a sales-

¹ See, in this connection, p. 20.

room was again maintained on the village green at Manchester, Mass., for ten weeks during the summer. As a result, both of these efforts and of more favorable money conditions, the sales of all products have been almost doubled. A comparison of the last two fiscal years follows:—

Comparison of Sales.

	Dec. 1, 1907, to Nov. 30, 1908.	Dec. 1, 1908, to Nov. 30, 1909.
“ Cambridge ” rugs,	\$7,394 90	\$13,419 09
“ Wundermops,”	6,497 79	12,445 84
Art fabrics,	2,628 60	4,026 13
“ Cantabrigia ” track and push brooms, .	432 97	2,621 33
	\$16,954 26	\$32,512 39

Shops in Local Centers.

The workshops at Pittsfield, Lowell and Worcester have been continued throughout the year, and about October 1 a new one was opened at Fall River. Each of these shops is in charge of a blind foreman, the commission paying rent and cost of supervision, and the workman receiving either a definite wage or else the full value of his products above the cost of material. As already stated, those at Pittsfield and Worcester serve, or will serve, also as training schools. It is the purpose of the commission to open other shops of this nature from time to time, until each large center having a sufficient number of persons needing such co-operation shall be provided for. No argument is needed to prove that the best market for the products of a blind worker should be in his own community, provided he has opportunity to carry on his occupation under favorable conditions, and to have his products brought to the attention of his fellow citizens.

During 1909 regular or temporary employment was provided in these local shops for 37 workmen and instruction given to 9 apprentices, as follows: Pittsfield, 9 employees, 8 apprentices; Lowell, 10 employees; Worcester, 12 employees, 1 apprentice; Fall River, 6 employees (opened Oct. 1, 1909). At the begin-

ning of 1910, 26 workmen are employed: in Pittsfield, 8; Lowell, 9; Worcester, 4; and Fall River, 5. The total earnings of the workmen during 1909 amounted to \$4,484.60.

EMPLOYMENT UNDER INDIRECT SUPERVISION.

Employment with the Seeing.

The general business conditions prevailing in the country have been to some extent responsible this year, as they were more so last year, for difficulty in placing our men in "outside" positions. The time to approach a concern relative to the taking on of a new employee, who has a distinct handicap in what he proposes to attempt, is when men are scarce and orders accumulating, — not when the concern is running four days a week. Nevertheless, during the year we have contributed toward the placing of four blind men and one woman with defective sight with employers other than the commission, and we find that five men placed thus by us in former years are still filling their positions successfully.

Home Work.

This activity, taken over in 1907 from the Alumnae Association of the Perkins Institution, has held its own in spite of handicaps, due to moving and other changes at the salesroom. There is a large opportunity for development in this work, provided, on the one hand, that a wider and steadier market can be secured, and, on the other, that workers may be more fully supervised. It is planned to bring together during the coming year one or more groups of such home workers for special training, which it is hoped may be supplemented, through that extension of field work already referred to, by more regular and thorough aiding of these industrious women in their homes.

THE PROBLEM OF INCAPACITY.

Supplementary Aid.

One of the most difficult questions with which the commission is called upon to deal is that of men and women handicapped in other ways than by blindness. Some of these were always incompetent persons, who happen now also to be blind; others,

deprived of sight in adult life, have never found it possible to adjust themselves to the new situation; others, because of disease or weakness coincident with loss of sight, are unable to do a large amount of work; while for others the present plan of help has come too late for them to adapt themselves to it. Yet they ought not, and do not wish, to remain idle. Under the very proper limitations of its powers, the commission can do nothing for these handicapped persons beyond paying them such wages as they actually earn. Since those wages, however, can never be sufficient for self-support, it becomes a question of supplementary aid from public or private sources. To keep these men and women steadily employed is far better for them and for the community than to maintain them in idleness; and it is our earnest hope — to the realization of which we are actively working — that some means of co-operation with the State and local boards of charity may develop, through which this type of blind person shall receive financial aid while regularly earning, to such extent as he is able, his own living.

The Aged and the Infirm.

Since about 30 per cent. of those known to the commission did not lose their sight until after sixty years of age, and since blindness is frequently complicated with disabling disease, it follows that with many men and women there is no possibility of even partial self-support; and in not a few instances there is now no alternative except the almshouse. It is beyond the rightly limited powers of the commission to give money to such unfortunate persons; yet the very fact that the Commonwealth has made generous provision for assisting the young and the able-bodied renders the necessities of these only the more conspicuous. Whether this type of need should be met by more highly organized private philanthropy, by homes partly or wholly supported by the State, or by a carefully safeguarded pension system, the commission is not prepared to determine; but the progress of its work with those for whom it is specifically responsible forces an ever stronger realization of the problem of the aged, infirm or sick, and impels the calling of public attention to their needs.

THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC.

Although not mentioned in terms in the act creating the commission, the development of its activities has made it clear that a fundamental duty is the education of the public in regard to blindness. It is important for the work that the public realize: (1) that a considerable percentage of blindness is preventable, and is therefore needless; (2) that, while blindness is a fearful handicap, it does not debar an otherwise normal person from living and working in the world at large; and (3) that, within a necessarily limited range of industrial activities, products made by the blind are in every way equal to those manufactured under normal conditions.

Prevention of Blindness.

Within the last few years there has developed in many States of the Union a strong impetus towards preventing, as far as possible, the immense economic loss as well as the untold personal suffering resulting from loss of sight. A leader in this movement is Miss Helen Keller, originally a member of this commission; and Massachusetts has not been backward in taking up the important work of educating the public concerning prevention. Among the most prolific causes of blindness are avoidable diseases and preventable accidents, and, were these causes eliminated, it is estimated that at least two-fifths of the existing burden upon the community and upon the blind themselves would be lifted. It is therefore the plain duty of the commission to undertake in Massachusetts, as similar bodies are inaugurating in New York, Ohio, Maryland, New Jersey and other States, a definite campaign for enlightening the public and for securing its co-operation in the stopping of needless loss of sight.

Consequently, the commission has printed and widely distributed during the year a pamphlet and leaflet of its own, entitled "Needlessly Blind for Life," reprints of several pamphlets on the same topic prepared by others, and a poster, "Stop Blindness," for use among those to whom the pamphlets would

hardly appeal. Such a campaign as this calls, however, for the best expert advice and help; and the commission has been most fortunate in securing these from two directions. On the one hand, it has been enabled to organize an advisory committee, including notable representatives of medicine, philanthropy and social work,¹ and on the other it has secured the co-operation of the School for Social Workers, the research department of which, supported by the Sage Foundation, is making an expert study of the records of hospitals and infirmaries, as a basis for determining authoritatively the major causes of blindness, and is also pursuing field work which promises important results. A campaign of education based upon such a study and conducted under such expert advice can hardly fail of important and far-reaching results.

Meanwhile, in addition to sending out the literature already referred to, the commission has taken every opportunity, through lectures and exhibits such as that at the Boston "1915" Exposition, to enforce the need of preventive measures; has been in correspondence with other States, with a view to concerted action; and, beginning in November, has given a month's leave of absence to Mr. Charles F. F. Campbell, in order that he may lecture in Ohio, under the auspices of the commission there, and without expense to Massachusetts, upon this and other important problems affecting the care of the blind.

Capabilities of the Blind.

To carry forward the second and third forms of education referred to on p. 18, the commission, through its agents, has given lectures before clubs and other gatherings; has prepared typical exhibits of the work of the blind of Massachusetts at suitable expositions, conventions, etc.; and has used every endeavor, not only to assist the blind to live as normal members of the community, but also, as already stated, to bring the products of their labor into the large markets of the country, not as the work of the handicapped, but as the very best productions of their kind.

¹ For list of this committee, see Appendix E, p. 52.

CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES.

The Perkins Institution.

The presence upon the commission of two persons (Miss Rogers and Mr. Allen) closely identified with the Perkins Institution and Massachusetts School for the Blind, as trustee and director, respectively, has greatly helped to make closer and more effective the cordial relations already existing between these two agencies, the one having to do mainly with the youthful, and the other chiefly with the adult, blind. There is found almost daily opportunity for exchange of services, and a signal evidence of friendliness is the hospitality of the Perkins Institution in the matter of the salesroom. Through their courtesy, the commission occupied for three years, at a comparatively low rental, a suite of rooms on the second floor of the building belonging to the Perkins Institution, at 383 Boylston Street, Boston. During the year just closed, however, the Perkins Institution has gone farther, by admitting the products of the commission's workers to its own salesroom, on the first floor, permitting a large saving in rental, and achieving the very desirable result of bringing together, on the ground floor of a conveniently located building, all the products of blind labor. This condensation would not have been possible, however, had not the selling of the "Cambridge" rugs been transferred to representative houses in Boston, Worcester, Springfield, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Kansas City, Detroit, Toledo and Washington.

At the salesroom on Boylston Street are still to be found, in addition to the mattresses, etc., made at the Perkins Institution, samples of the "Cambridge" rugs, as well as a full assortment of the art fabrics, "Wundernops," "Cantabrigia" brooms, women's home work and other products of the blind, a complete list of which is given in Appendix G. The most direct service which the general public can render to the blind is through a steady and generous buying of these products of their industry. Only as the market widens can the shops be enlarged and the number of self-supporting blind be increased.

*The Massachusetts Association for promoting the Interests of
the Adult Blind.*

It was out of the activities and experimentations of this body, established in 1902, that the commission and the industries under its directions arose, and both are in continuing debt to it for unflagging interest and support. Not only does this association maintain a fund for supplementary aid, but it is co-operating in the campaign for the prevention of blindness, and is helping the work for the blind in many other ways. Perhaps its most notable contribution is through the maintenance of the quarterly magazine, "Outlook for the Blind," the importance of which, in bringing workers for the blind all over the United States together, and in stimulating them towards ever higher ideals and achievements, can hardly be overestimated. The commission is able, in this connection, to render some return for the association's help by making such arrangements that the superintendent of the industrial department acts as editor of this magazine.

Other Agencies in Massachusetts.

In addition to its co-operation upon the advisory committee for the prevention of blindness, the State Board of Health has sent to every physician in the State a circular letter on "ophthalmia neonatorum," calling attention to the statute which provides that, "should one or both eyes of an infant become inflamed, swollen and red, and show an unnatural discharge at any time within two weeks after its birth," the fact should be reported within six hours to the nearest health officer, and which imposes a fine of \$100 for neglect to do so. The State Board of Charities, the Associated Charities of Boston, and other public and private boards, as well as individuals, in Boston, New Bedford, Worcester, Fall River and other cities and towns, have been of signal help in many instances. The Auditor's department has given most valuable advice in connection with the complicated bookkeeping arising from the varied industrial activities under the direction of the commission. The Massachusetts Charitable Eye and Ear Infirmary has continued its

invaluable co-operation, calling immediately to the attention of the office all cases of blindness coming within its knowledge, and assisting us in many ways to deal with those and with others.

SUMMARY.

In its report for the year ended Nov. 30, 1908, the commission expressed the hope that it might "report at the end of the next fiscal year substantial gains." This hope, as will be shown by an examination of the detailed reports in the Appendix, has been in gratifying measure fulfilled. The sales of goods made by the blind have practically doubled, and, better still, there is firm ground for believing that all these products have established for themselves a genuine and growing market. This has enabled the commission not only to give employment to a greater number of persons, but also to reduce its request for appropriation for maintenance of industries from \$20,000 to \$15,000. It is hoped, moreover, that, as the business expands, and becomes, therefore, more nearly self-supporting this part of the annual grant from the State may be somewhat further diminished.

Moreover the year has witnessed the opening of one new local center, the material strengthening of those already existing, and a notable increase, in many localities, of interest in the problems of the blind. It has seen, not only in Massachusetts but in many other States of the Union, a marked arousing of the people to the possibility and the necessity of preventing needless loss of sight. Above all, what has been accomplished for the adult blind in the less than four years since the Commonwealth officially recognized their claims, has been so substantial in character and so considerable in amount as to justify the belief that each coming year will see still greater gains.

Every year of added experience makes it plainer, however, that this work for the adult blind, in which Massachusetts is a recognized pioneer, is in the nature of an experiment; and that there is much to be learned, not only by the general public, but also by those most nearly concerned, regarding the many questions associated with loss of sight. And, in order that the work of experimentation may be carried on wisely, in order that there may be little or nothing done which has later to be

undone, the commission has felt bound to employ men and women who are experts, and who command, therefore, good salaries. It would fail in its duty did it permit this important work to be undertaken by mere clerks, having little knowledge of the needs of the blind and less wisdom in dealing with these needs.

In its choice of those who are pursuing its investigations and carrying out its plans, the commission has been singularly fortunate. Its agents, both men and women, are not only markedly skilful in their several lines of activity, but they are devoted to the cause of the blind with a single-mindedness and enthusiasm for which money cannot pay. They work with each other, with the blind, with the many co-operating forces, and with the commission itself, in an unusual spirit of courtesy, of self-forgetting, and of determination to be of the utmost service to the cause. The commission owes it to itself as well as to them to express its appreciation in this public way. It desires, also, to record its high sense of obligation to all those other persons and agencies, public and private, that have co-operated so willingly and so effectively in the carrying forward of the work.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES P. MUNROE,
ANNETTE P. ROGERS,
LUCINDA W. PRINCE,
WALTER B. SNOW,
EDWARD E. ALLEN,

Commission for the Blind.

Nov 30, 1909.

APPENDIX A.

DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION.

The work of the department of registration and information covers central office work, field work, and supervision of employment of women outside the shops. In this brief report we can answer only some of the questions most commonly asked us, and tell the most important things which have happened during this year's work.

I. Central Office.

With two additions to the force, and a greater demand for information and aid than ever before, we can report a greater amount of work accomplished. As heretofore, the bookkeeping department and the distributing agent have headquarters here. Of the remaining six regular workers from this office, it is interesting to note that three are without sight. It is our aim so to arrange the administrative work, as well as that in the shops, that the largest possible share may be done by those without sight. The two new workers are a blind stenographer, who takes a large proportion of our letters on the Braille shorthand machine, and a field worker for children, given to us through private generosity.

Registration. — Three points so often confuse people interested in the blind that it is worth while to clear them up, so far as possible, here. They are: the number of the blind; the definition of blindness; and the presence of blindness when there is no outward appearance of it. It is frequently said, for example, that there are all the way from 3,000 to 5,000 blind persons in the State. Our own report of additions to the register helps to make confusion, for we started with 3,806 blind persons Jan. 1, 1907, and have apparently increased to 4,332. It must be remembered, however, that, although from 200 to 300 blind

persons are newly reported to us each year, deaths, removals and recoveries of sight (by no means uncommon in cataract cases) are much less likely to be reported. Another thing to be remembered is, that definitions of blindness must vary, and that defective vision may be more handicapping to certain people and in certain occupations than total blindness under other conditions. The following definitions of groups included among the blind may be of service on this point: —

1. Totally blind, or able to see light only.
2. Sufficient sight to avoid running into objects, to distinguish shadows, etc.
3. Ability to distinguish color and to see to play cards, but not to read.
4. Theoretical ability to read, but practical inability to use sight long enough to benefit by ordinary means for education and employment.

It is also to be remembered that the obviousness of blindness varies. This totally blind person may move about more freely than that other person having only defective sight. We have not, however, begun to realize the importance of the defective-eyesight problem, which has as yet only been touched upon. Were we to include cases of serious eye disablement, our figures would be very much increased. The following case suggests the seriousness of this problem: —

Miss Blank, a capable young woman, was sent to us by her oculist for change of employment. She had been working as a bookkeeper, straining the small amount of vision she has with the help of powerful glasses, until she was on the verge of a nervous breakdown. As she could not afford to stop working, several new lines of work were sought and tried. After several weeks' vacation she attended the telephone school, and came to our office for practice on our private branch exchange board. She is now employed as operator by the company previously employing her as a bookkeeper, and is earning as good wages as before, without danger to her sight.

Information. — One of the greatest demands we have is for information on the subject of prevention of blindness. The fact that half the children at the Nursery for Blind Babies and

at least a quarter of those at the Perkins School for the Blind are needlessly blind as a result of one cause, ophthalmia neonatorum, to say nothing of the estimate that two-fifths of the whole blind population are needlessly blind from various causes, has met with lively response here and in other States. Our revised list of prevention literature is as follows: —

1. First Report of Social Service Work at the Massachusetts Charitable Eye and Ear Infirmary, October, 1907, to October, 1908 (especially p. 14, "Infant Ophthalmia").
2. Reprints: —
 - "Ophthalmia Neonatorum," Frederick E. Cheney, M.D.
 - "Preventable Blindness caused by Inflammation of the Eyes in the New Born," Robert L. DeNormandie, M.D.
 - "Stop Blindness," a simple statement concerning ophthalmia neonatorum, originally prepared by the Buffalo Association for the Blind.
 - "Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Preventive Treatment, Suggestions and Treatment of the Disease," prepared by the committee appointed by the Massachusetts Medical Society "To consider what measures should be taken by the society to prevent the occurrence and secure the prompt and effective treatment of ophthalmia neonatorum."
3. Publications: —
 - Bulletin No. 1. "Needlessly Blind for Life."
 - Outline, Bulletin No. 1.

In reply to many questions, we may say that a study of our records, combined with the reports of social service at the Massachusetts Charitable Eye and Ear Infirmary, shows the following facts: —

1. That there are three to four hundred people now living in Massachusetts without doubt needlessly blind as a result of ophthalmia neonatorum.

2. That this is no indication of the extent of bad results from this disease, as many who suffered in this way have died earlier, and many more who lost but one eye or who have defective sight only, are not known.

Our records show that 541, or about 13 per cent. of the blind in the State, are blind from accidents. Accident and ophthalmia neonatorum are the causes about which we know the most. In our effort to learn more, we have tried to secure, in the cases

of newly blind persons added to the register, either through the hospitals or (with the patient's permission) from the physician, an official statement of the cause of blindness. Of the 719 names added from Jan. 1, 1907, to Dec. 1, 1909, we have official statement of causes in 306 cases. Although this is but a small beginning, we publish here a summary of results, believing that every possible opportunity should be taken for studying, in connection with a knowledge of the social and economic conditions surrounding them, those diseases known to have resulted in blindness.

Official Statement of Causes of Blindness in 306 out of 719 New Cases added to the Register, January, 1907, to Dec. 1, 1909.

[o. u. indicates both eyes; o. d., right eye; o. s., left eye.]

I. Congenital defects:—

Albinism,	1
Amblyopia,	1
Amaurotic family idiocy,	2
Aniridia and nystagmus,	1
Anterior polar cataract,	1
Astigmatism conical cornea, opacity of lens,	1
Congenital cataracts,	5
Congenital cataracts and nystagmus,	2
Congenital dislocation of lens,	1
Congenital separation retina,	1
Lateral nystagmus,	1
No eye formation,	1
Optic atrophy (congenital),	3
	— 21

II. Acquired diseases (general):—

Brain tumor,	2
Rheumatism followed by inflammation,	1
Scarlet fever,	1
Spinal meningitis preceded by pneumonia,	1
Sympathetic ophthalmia, history typhoid, o. d. removed,	1
Typhoid fever,	1
	— 7

III. Acquired diseases of the eye:—

Amblyopia (toxic, 1; tobacco, 1),	2
Aphakia o. u., floating opacities o. d., pupillary membrane o. s.,	1
Blocked pupil,	5

111. Acquired diseases of the eye — *Con.*

Cataracts: —

Cataracts,	5
Complicated cataracts,	3
Immature cataract,	2
Incipient cataract,	3

Cataract conjunctivitis; hyper-mature cataract;

hyper-mature cataract o. d., immature cataract o. s.; immature cataract, high myopia; mature cataract panophthalmitis o. s., incipient cataract o. d.; mature cataract o. s., incipient cataract o. d., ptosis o. n.; nuclear cataract, 1 each,

7

— 20

Choroid, atrophy of, embolism central artery o. s., 1

Choroiditis (specific, 1; disseminated, 1), . . . 2

Conjunctivitis (1 each conjunctivitis; conjunctivitis acute and horizontal nystagmus; chronic conjunctivitis o. s., large patch choroidal atrophy, artificial eye o. d.; and mucopurulent conjunctivitis),

4

Purulent, 2

Cornea, perforating ulcer o. d., scarlet fever o. s., 1

Corneal growth, 1

Corneal opacities, 1

Corneal opacities, lenticular opacities, chronic dacryocystitis, 1

Disorganized globe, 2

Glaucoma: —

Glaucoma, 24

Absolute, 3

Chronic, 12

Secondary, 5

Simplex, 3

— 47

Irido-cyclitis, 4

Iritis: —

Chronic, 2

Specific, 3

Iritis block pupil o. d., ulcer keratitis o. s.;

calcareous deposits in lens, iridodonesis o. s.,

iritis; old iritis o. d., old iridectomy o. n.;

iritis and keratitis; kerato iritis; iritis, opaque

lens o. s., incipient cataract, iritic adhesions

o. d.; recurrent iritis, 7

— 12

III. Acquired diseases of the eye — *Con.*

Irido cyclitis,	4
Keratitis,	1
Interstitial,	8
Traumatic,	1
Ulcerative,	1
	— 11
Lenticular opacities,	1
Leucomata,	11
Myopia, high,	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum,	14
Optic atrophy,	37
Optic atrophy o. u., chronic conjunctivitis o. u., immature cataract o. u.; optic atrophy o. u., post neuritis; optic atrophy, toxic amblyopia; optic atrophy, vitreous opacities; progressive optic nerve paralysis; simple optic atrophy, 1 each,	6
	— 43
Optic neuritis and iritis,	2
Pemphigus,	1
Phthisis bulbi,	7
Pupil, exclusion of,	2
Retina, separation of,	7
Retinitis,	1
Chorio,	1
Neuro o. u., with beginning atrophy,	1
Pigmentosa,	1
	— 4
Scleritis,	1
Sclero-keratitis, tubercular,	1
Staphyloma, leucoma o. s., probably old o. n. case,	1
Staphyloma, adherent leucoma,	1
Staphyloma o. s., probably result of ophthalmia neonatorum,	1
	— 3
Subluxation of lens,	1
Sympathetic ophthalmia,	1
Trachoma,	2
Dense o. d., old o. u.,	1
Old,	1
With pannus,	1
O. d., phthisis bulbi o. s.,	1
	— 6

III. Acquired diseases of the eye — *Con.*

Ulcers,	3	
Serpens o. d., inflamed o. s.,	1	
	—	4
Uveitis,	1	
Vitreous, floating opacities of, myopic crescents,		
choroiditis o. u.,	1	
Hemorrhage in the,	1	
Opacities chorio-retinitis o. n.,	1	
	—	3
		— 235

IV. Accident and disease:—

Blow of stone o. d., leucoma cornea (central) o. s.,	1	
Cataracts and fall,	1	
Cataract o. u., operated o. d., later blocked pupil,		
result of injury,	1	
Cataract and steel injury,	1	
Dislocated lens o. d., iridodonesis o. s., struck by		
stick over eye o. d.,	1	
Dislocated lens, incipient cataract, trembling iris,		
traumatic cataract o. s., injured in boyhood, .	1	
Dislocated lens, old injury o. s., nystagmus, . . .	1	
Hit o. d., blocked o. d.,	1	
Hit by stone o. d., disease o. s.,	1	
Old injury o. s., good projection o. d.,	1	
Old injury o. s., traumatic cataract, central color		
scotoma o. d., tobacco amblyopia,	1	
Optic atrophy, injury six years ago,	1	
Phthisis bulbi, explosion thirty years ago, corneal		
opacities, iridectomy, separation retina, . . .	1	
Phthisis bulbi o. d., old injury o. s.,	1	
Separation of retina, also blow on head causing		
loss of vision,	1	
Separation of retina o. d., traumatic cataract o. s.,		
also injury,	1	
Tubercular eye o. u., accident (umbrella in eye		
o. d.),	1	
Ulcers, o. d., old injury o. s.,	1	
Ulcer o. d., scissors o. s., hypopyon ulcer cornea		
o. d.,	1	
	—	19

V. Accidents:—

Abscess of cornea, result of explosion,	1
Aphakia and fall o. d., optic atrophy from blow	
o. s.,	1

V. Accidents — *Con.*

Blocked pupil, caused by injury,	1
Burn,	1
Hit by police club, kicked by horse,	1
Electric burn,	1
Explosion,	2
Fall,	1
Injury o. u., dynamite explosion,	1
Injury o. d., foreign body interior chamber; o. s. steel injury, steel in eye while grinding ax,	1
Injury o. d., o. s., traumatic cataract ext.,	1
Old injury o. d.,	1
Old injury, powder explosion,	1
Old injury, blocked pupil o. s., hot iron burn o. d.,	1
Old injury o. d., cyclitis sympathetic o. s.,	1
Panophthalmitis, dynamite explosion,	1
Powder burn, o. u.,	1
Shrunken globe, result of explosion,	1
Spark in eye while at furnace, other eye followed,	1
Steel in eye,	1
Sympathetic o. d., injury o. s.,	1
Sympathetic ophthalmia o. d., injury o. s.,	1
Traumatic cataracts o. d., injury o. s.,	1
	— 24
	306

While these figures cover only a small proportion of cases, and must, therefore, be taken as suggestive only, they point in several directions where we need to press our search for means of prevention. The 14 ophthalmia neonatorum cases, taken with the 2 probable cases entered under staphyloma, coming to us in less than three years, call for renewed activities for the stamping out of that avoidable infectious disease. The very large proportion of glaucoma and optic nerve cases make the lay worker ask whether further medical research cannot find hope for prevention of blindness as a result of these diseases. The accidents group suggests a number of questions to the worker who knows the individual cases, such as: Have the foreign-speaking laborers, who become blind as a result of dynamite explosions in quarrying, been sufficiently instructed in their own tongue as to means of protection in their dangerous trade? We look forward to answers to this and other questions before another year is passed.

The conclusion from our experience, from the studies at the Massachusetts Charitable Eye and Ear Infirmary, and from the investigation under way at the School for Social Workers, is that the campaign of education on the subject of ophthalmia neonatorum should be pushed in every way; and that, although there may be need of further legislation, much can be done, through existing statutes and agencies, to remove the danger of needless blindness. The people must be informed, but even more important is the co-operation of those individuals and boards that are responsible for the guidance of the people in matters of health and safety. In this connection it is valuable to know that the following cities and towns of Massachusetts have contributed to that part of the blind population which is still under twenty years of age, at least 146 young people who are, without doubt, needlessly blind from this single cause: —

Greater Boston: —	Gloucester.	Northbridge.
Boston.	Greenwood.	North Cambridge.
Charlestown.	Hadley.	Norwood.
Dorchester.	Hamilton.	Orange.
East Boston.	Harwich.	Revere.
Roxbury.	Haverhill.	Rockland.
South Boston.	Holyoke.	Rockport.
Ashland.	Housatonic.	Salem.
Attleborough.	Hudson.	Saugus.
Braintree.	Huntington.	South Framingham.
Brockton.	Lawrence.	Springfield.
Cambridge.	Leominster.	Spencer.
Chelsea.	Lynn.	Swampscott.
Cheshire.	Malden.	Taunton.
Clinton.	Marblehead.	Truro.
Dover.	Medway.	Waltham.
Essex.	Melrose.	Webster.
Fall River.	Milford.	Wellesley.
Fitchburg.	New Bedford.	Weymouth.
Florence.	Newburyport.	Winchester.
Framingham.	Newton.	Worcester.
Gardner.	North Adams.	Worthington.

Ophthalmia neonatorum is now on the list of diseases reportable to the State Board of Health; yet the Eye and Ear Infirmary social service report for 1908-09 shows many cases unreported, and coming to the hospital too late. Out of a total

of 116 cases of ophthalmia neonatorum this year, they report that: 6 are totally blind, through neglect or delay; 15 lost one eye each, through neglect or delay; and 6 are left with 1 eye scarred. All of these bad results could without doubt have been avoided by prompt, expert medical care.

II. Field Work.

As shown on p. 8, we have been in touch this year with 784 blind persons, scattered in 179 cities and towns beside greater Boston. Chiefly through the added help of Miss Sanborn, we have been able to extend our field work and to continue the study begun in 1907 of the needs of children not in special schools for the blind.

There are about 500 young blind persons in the State who are twenty years of age and under, and half of the number give us comparatively little anxiety, because they are either in the Perkins School or provided for at home. The only question which affects the group as a whole is that, as the compulsory education law is not enforced in regard to the young blind, and as parents are very slow to send even the normal blind child away from home, there are serious delays in beginning the education of many blind children in this State. Miss Sanborn had a happy faculty for persuading delaying parents to come and see the school for themselves, and of showing them such cheerful pictures of the life there that they have been led to take the necessary steps themselves; but there remains for other parents a need of more forcible measures. The other half of the young blind population, the half which is not already in special schools, is made up of a group of cases of which a very large proportion seem, with our present resources, to defy settlement. Miss Sanborn had, during the last three months, worked over 83 of these cases, and had a waiting list of 162 more. The list includes those who need to be followed up with a view to application to Perkins School, the School for the Feeble-minded at Waverley and the Nursery for Blind Babies; those needing medical care; and the large group of cases where children have too much sight to be educated as blind, and too little for successful education in the public schools. The accompanying illustrations are of this kind of problem. (See opposite page.)

These two cases, with many more, suggest: (1) the part played by eye disablement in the general question of backward and defective children; (2) the need of observation classes, probably of an observation school, for children with disabled eyes.

It has already been shown that some of these children may, after proper relief and a chance to "catch up," with very little special attention, be returned to public school. So varied, however, are the degrees of defect and combinations with other defects in these children, that only a sifting place for observation, experiment and continuous supervision would meet the requirements of the situation. Many of these children have bright minds, but a loss of all or part of their education in childhood forces them, as we know from later experience with adults, to enter that group of low-wage earners and semi-dependents who make up so large a part of the material over which charitable societies are working, often too late for effective results. Their education is of course part of the larger problem of all backward and defective children; but in the case of children where eye disablement is the defect, there is certainly knowledge enough of conditions and experience enough behind us in education of the young blind to warrant the establishment of a system for the closer study of these cases. There is needed the co-operation both of schools for the blind and of the public schools to accomplish this.

We have summarized here the results of this partly completed special study, as a recognition of the unusual work of Miss Sanborn, who has suddenly died during the days of the writing of this report. She had so carefully planned and so thoroughly worked out her material, so far as the investigation has been carried, as to make a foundation in method for future work, and to establish in our own minds the points we have outlined. More than this, field work for blind children in this State will always have the advantage of having made its beginning through a worker who established with the families and children in her care a rarely beautiful and helpful personal relation.



Two Children who are in School again as a Result of Commission's Efforts.
 Bright boy of thirteen, partly blind; reached third grade at age of nine; no schooling for next four years; public school now gives another trial.



Two Children who are in School again as a Result of Commission's Efforts.
 Girl of ten, bright and active; partly blind, partly deaf; out of school and running wild two years; now under observation at school for deaf.

III. Employment of Women, or Home Work.

We have to report this year general progress in the condition of the home work of women, which, together with the Manchester summer salesroom and a large part of the field work for men and women, has been in Miss Rand's charge. Seventy-three women have made use of the salesroom, receiving sums varying from \$0.25 to \$130.23, which, with sums varying from \$0.50 to \$422.91, paid to six men consignors, make a total of \$1,277.23 paid in earnings through the salesroom. Further development of this work depends upon two things: (1) an increased and steady market; (2) prompt, first-class work from consignors.

We have this year made several experiments in connection with our field work in trying to increase sales. We asked the co-operation of the women's clubs of the State, and have arranged sales and exhibits in connection with club meetings. While the general interest has been great and while the effort has resulted in many good things, the financial returns in proportion to the effort have not been satisfactory; and we must renew our appeal, and our reminder that these useful house-keeper's supplies, well made by our workers and sold at market prices, often represent the only possible earnings for blind women in their homes. But very little and very irregular will be the money they earn, unless we can count upon a large number of regular, yearly orders for these standard goods. Ninety per cent. of our workers need the work not only for occupation, but in order that they may contribute to their own support.

In the matter of prompt, first-class work, we cannot change conditions materially until we can arrange to have some of those who most need to earn working in groups under supervision, and until we have more teachers to help in making the home work more educational and progressive.

Moreover, we need suggestions regarding new processes which may be done without sight. We have met with two during the past season, which are mentioned in the hope that they may lead to other suggestions. One, that of taping elastics, brings a slight income throughout the year to a blind woman in her home; the stuffing of dolls' legs gave part-time employment to one of our

workers for six weeks during the summer past at the Manchester salesroom.

It is easy to forget that, after all, a very large proportion of the blind pass their lives at home, and that it is a rare household which gives its blind member an active part in daily life. One of the chief aims of our field work is to stimulate and aid occupation of the blind at home, and as a reminder to all we devote a page to illustrations showing some of our blind workers at home. (See opposite page.)

LUCY WRIGHT.

Superintendent of Registration and Information.

BLIND WORKERS AT HOME.



Stuffing Dolls' Legs.



Taping Elastics.



Raising Chickens.



Making Baskets.

APPENDIX B.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.

The general problems concerning the various industries are fully explained in the body of the commission's report, and the results of the workshops are given in the financial statement. It is therefore unnecessary to add a more detailed report from the superintendent of the industrial department.

However, it may be of interest to state that applications for advice and assistance are received constantly at our shops from other institutions and from individuals interested in the welfare of the blind. Not only do these inquiries come from different parts of Massachusetts, but from all over the United States; and it is worthy of note that quite as many appeals for help come from industrial workers for the seeing as from workers for the blind. The commission has always taken the attitude, so long as these requests for aid do not infringe too greatly upon the time of the staff, that every possible assistance should be given. Our blind workers also take pride in being able to demonstrate work which warrants the attention of visitors from different parts of the country. As an instance of this, we mention the fortnight's visit of two Sisters from St. Joseph's Home for the Blind, Jersey City, N. J. These two women worked in the shops every day, in order to learn all they could with regard to weaving for the blind, and their daily presence in the shops was a source of great pleasure to our workers. At the end of their stay we helped them to secure and equip looms for their own institution.

Visitors to the workshops, salesroom and office of the commission come from many States. During the past twelve months different branches of the commission's work have been inspected by representatives of work for the blind from Tokyo, Japan; Bombay, India; London, Eng.; Halifax, N. S.; Montreal, Can.;

California, Connecticut, Illinois, Kentucky, Maine, Michigan, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Utah and the State of Washington.

While the commission has taken a practical interest in the "Outlook for the Blind," as mentioned on p. 21, it is only fair to state that the commission has derived direct benefit from this service. For example, the magazine subscribes to one of the best newspaper clipping bureaus, and information about work for the blind from all parts of the United States constantly comes to hand. In addition to this the editor is in frequent correspondence with the men and women who are responsible for work for the blind all over the world, and thus new experiments or devices brought forward for improving the condition of the blind are early known to the Massachusetts commission. Hence the commission, by co-operating with the Massachusetts association, is securing at a minimum cost information with regard to the most approved methods for rendering assistance to those who have lost their sight.

CHARLES F. F. CAMPBELL,

Superintendent, Industrial Department.

APPENDIX C.

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF THE INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.

Workshops.

During the year ended Nov. 30, 1909, we have continued to maintain three shops (in addition to the plant in Cambridge) which were in operation previously, namely: in Pittsfield, at 24 Dunham Street; in Lowell, at 98 Central Street; and in Worcester, at 194 Front Street. On October 1 we opened a fourth of the same description, in Fall River, at 801 North Main Street.

The lines of work carried on are: the re-seating of chairs, in all varieties of cane, pith, splint and rush; the renovating of old, or the making of new, mattresses and cushions (done in all the shops); the cobbling of shoes (done in Pittsfield and Lowell); and basket making and cabinet making (done in Pittsfield). The work in all the shops is chiefly that of repairing or renovating, rather than of manufacturing; and no stock of finished product, worthy the name, is kept on hand. As a result, these local shops depend directly, and almost from day to day, upon the patronage of their communities. Any serious interruption in the steady influx of orders necessarily means the throwing out of employment of a corresponding number of men. Were we engaged more extensively in manufacturing, permitting the accumulation of finished product, this would furnish us with a reservoir of opportunity for steady employment and gradual enlargement of our working force, which is now unavailable. We can furnish our men with the opportunity and facilities for work, but not with work itself to any considerable extent, except as we have the continuous support and co-operation of the public. We have had this very generously in every city, but we need its continuance and its expansion.

The total wages paid to the blind in these shops during the year, including the fixed wages to the foremen, were: Pittsfield, \$2,163.72; Lowell, \$1,335.03; Worcester, \$849.96; and Fall River (two months), \$135.89.

Training.

Training has been furnished during the year to 37 individuals, divided as follows, in several instances instruction being given in more than one trade or branch of a trade: in broom making, 12; in cobbling, 10; in chair seating, (a) hand-woven cane 6, (b) machine-woven cane webbing 3, (c) pith and splint 4, (d) rush 2; in mattress making, 2; and in rug weaving, 3. At the Perkins Institution, the commission paying incidental expenses, instruction was given in piano tuning, 1; in cane seating, 2; and in rush, 1. In addition, instruction in telephone operating was furnished to 3, and in typesetting to 1. Of the total number of 37, 19 have successfully finished their courses, and have become proficient in their respective trades; 4 are still in training; while 14 have failed, for one reason or another, to become proficient, and have been obliged to abandon that particular undertaking.

Employment.

A preliminary general statement will serve not only to throw light on what follows, but also to answer many questions and suggestions which come both from the blind and from their friends. We appreciate these suggestions, and hope that they will continue to reach us; but it should be understood why they may not always bear immediate fruit.

There are very many things which the blind can do, as far as achieving the process is concerned; but the number which may be carried on in a practical, businesslike fashion, — the number, that is, at which there is any chance for the average blind man to make a living wage, in competition with seeing labor, — is very limited. Again, we often hear of individual blind men, apparently of average type, who are doing extraordinary things, and their example is a tremendous source of encouragement and comfort to all who are nonplussed by their

own blindness; but it is unfair to say that because one blind man has done a certain thing, all blind men can do likewise.

Of the 109 applicants for employment received this year, 3 have been placed in "outside" positions; 25 employed with ourselves in our Cambridge factory: (*a*) 5 as broom makers (2 continued from last year, 3 new this year); (*b*) 5 as mop makers (all continued); (*c*) 12 as rug weavers (11 continued, 1 new); (*d*) 2 as chair seaters (1 continued, 1 new); (*e*) 1 as cobbler (new). In Pittsfield, where the same classification cannot be shown in a practical way, as almost all are engaged in more than one process, according to the manner in which the work comes in, we have employed 9 (7 continued, 2 new); in Lowell, 10 (8 continued, 2 new); in Worcester, 12 (5 continued, 7 new); and in Fall River, 6 (all new). In Cambridge and at the central office, in various miscellaneous situations, 5 (3 continued, 2 new). Of the remaining 39 on the list of applicants, 4 needed and are still receiving training; 17 have declined such opportunities as we had to offer them, either of work or of training preliminary to work; and 18 have as yet not been placed, some because of lack of opportunity, some because they were individually unsuited to anything we had to offer.

Home Industries.

During the year the commission has contributed to the establishing, or, if already established, to the fostering, of lines of home industry in the cases of 15 men, many of whom have benefited in more than one way and on several occasions. The applicants have included piano tuners, chair seaters, cobblers, mattress makers, broom makers and proprietors of small commercial enterprises. In most instances each individual has figured under two or more of these classifications. The contributions of the commission have consisted of: (*a*) loans of equipment, tools, materials, etc., in 8 cases (exclusive of the continuance of loans from previous years, and also exclusive of certain classes of loans not particularly calculated to contribute to home industrial efforts, in this present sense, such as loans of typewriters or Braille writers, etc.); (*b*) securing increase of patronage, through the efforts of a canvasser to enlist the interest and co-operation of the local community, or through

other advertising methods; and (c) giving information and advice of more than a passing nature, representing to the office considerable expenditure of time, thought, energy and money.

Miscellaneous Efforts.

In addition to the foregoing, much time and energy have been consumed by a wide variety of miscellaneous and unclassifiable efforts, sometimes contributing much to the welfare of the individual for whom they were exerted, at other times bearing little or no evident fruit. These have covered, as far as they can be classified: (a) information, advice and inspiration to self-confidence, or relief from depressing environment, all covering a great variety of things only indirectly connected with industrial or employment problems; (b) the determining upon suitable or supplementary occupations, in deciding which, home conditions, the nature of the locality and individuality had carefully to be studied; (c) the furnishing of advice with regard to business undertakings and methods, the assisting of peddling or canvassing enterprises, by helping to secure a license, a suitable stand, a desirable line of goods, etc.; (d) the finding or recommending of suitable boarding places for apprentices and workmen away from home; (e) the referring of applicants to State home teachers for the blind; (f) the finding of markets for their products; (g) the reference to, and conference with, various other agencies, such as overseers of the poor, associated charities, Massachusetts Association for the Blind, etc.

CHARLES W. HOLMES,

Deputy Superintendent, Industrial Department.

APPENDIX D.

APPROPRIATION FOR GENERAL EXPENSES. — DISBURSEMENTS DEC. 1, 1908, TO NOV. 30, 1909.

ITEMS.	Total.	Adminis- tration.	Registra- tion and Informa- tion.	Industrial and Ed- ucational Aid.	Cobbling Class (now closed).	Chair Seating, Cam- bridge.	Home Work Depart- ment.	Pittsfield Shop.	Lowell Shop.	Worcester Shop.	Fall River Shop (2 Mos.).
Salaries and wages: —											
Seeing,	\$8,533 87	\$6,492 63	\$2 80	\$9 00	\$552 50	\$49 75	\$803 24	\$382 00	\$140 80	\$71 15	\$30 00
Blind,	6,191 21	1,994 00	—	397 09	127 00	57 94	592 47	2,163 72	478 00	312 25	68 74
Rent,	2,265 70	1,020 16	—	—	—	—	180 00	519 54	216 00	300 00	30 00
Travelling and incidentals,	4,174 99	2,045 54	50 35	334 57	33 19	92 01	226 15	569 70	354 60	316 45	152 43
Reimbursement to industrial department:—											
General salesroom,	622 61	—	—	622 61	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Janitor's supplies account,	63 00	—	—	63 00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Equipment bought,	660 42	47 58	—	268 75	140 89	6 11	75	11 60	57 77	52 21	74 76
Merchandise bought,	1,729 53	—	—	—	125 03	—	567 47	1,025 31	7 92	3 80	—
Board of apprentices and pupils,	2,802 39	—	—	2,802 39	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Less refunds applied or amount advanced by industrial department,	\$27,043 72	\$11,599 91	\$53 15	\$4,497 41	\$978 61	\$205 81	\$2,370 08	\$4,671 87	\$1,255 09	\$1,055 86	\$355 93
	76 09	—	—	3 95	9 90	48 89	—	—	—	13 35	—
Revenue from sales used,	\$26,967 63	—	—	—	—	—	1,088 54 ¹	879 09 ¹	—	—	—
	1,967 63	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net cost, as per appropriation,	\$25,000 00	\$11,599 91	\$53 15	\$4,493 46	\$968 71	\$156 92	\$1,281 54	\$3,792 78	\$1,255 09	\$1,042 51	\$355 93
Home work department sales were:—											
Stock,											
Consigned articles,											
Total sales,											
(These include sales at Manchester.)											

¹ These amounts represent a part of the income from sales of finished products at the Home Work Salesroom, and receipts from customers for chair seating, etc., at Pittsfield. Since the cost of raw material and blind labor of these finished products is simply advanced from the general appropriation, subject to reimbursement by the customer, this revenue is applied as a refund to the department's expenditures.

INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT SHOPS. — COST OF MANUFACTURING AND OPERATING, DEC. 1, 1908, TO NOV. 30, 1909.

[Depreciation of plants not included in these figures.]

ITEMS.	Mop Shop.	Rug Shop.	Art Fabric Shop.	Broom Shop (including Track Brooms).
Total sales,	\$12,539 04	\$12,336 75	\$2,575 43	\$2,636 66
Less discounts and allowances,	135 93	171 71	—	15 33
Net sales, ¹	\$12,403 11	\$12,165 04	\$2,575 43	\$2,621 33
Finished goods sent to salesroom,	20 80	203 35	—	38
Samples distributed for advertising,	18 47	—	—	1 37
Add inventories of Nov. 30, 1909,	\$12,442 38	\$12,368 39	\$2,575 43	\$2,623 08
	6,758 89	8,023 28	5,819 26	841 71
Inventories of Dec. 1, 1908,	\$6,132 24	\$7,439 55	\$3,182 88	\$261 64
Raw material purchased,	10,430 89	9,286 87	2,642 72	2,854 68
Blind labor on goods manufactured,	1,631 16	3,810 80	2,549 17	1,235 34
Seeing labor on goods manufactured,	—	678 28	455 15	—
Add merchandise returned from salesroom over amount sent in 1908-09,	—	—	1,876 21	—
	18,194 29	21,215 80	8,706 13	4,351 66
Showing gross profit or loss in manufacturing,	\$1,006 98 ²	\$824 13 ³	\$311 44 ³	\$886 87 ³
Operating Expenses.				
Salaries to seeing,	\$1,094 31	\$1,481 82	\$1,609 52	\$312 50
Commission on sales,	994 56	521 26	59 71	45 63
Royalty to blind inventor,	280 96	—	—	—
Rent (and water rates),	213 00	480 00	683 96	142 02
Blind janitor,	332 64	302 55	68 14	10 33
Seeing janitor,	—	—	196 63	—
General expense items,	1,175 34	891 72	865 00	452 07
	4,060 81	3,677 35	3,482 96	962 55
Net cost of operation,	\$3,053 83	\$4,501 48	\$3,794 40	\$1,849 42

¹ For the sales of shop products at Boston and Manchester salesrooms, see pp. 45 and 46.² Profit.³ Loss.

COST OF GENERAL SALESROOMS AND ITEMS NOT DIRECTLY CHARGEABLE
TO ANY PARTICULAR DEPARTMENT.

Salesroom at 383 Boylston Street (transferred to Perkins Institution Salesroom July 1, 1909).

Cost of selling: —

Salaries to seeing,	\$433 11
Blind janitor and assistant,	197 64
Rent and heat,	408 33
Commissions on sales,	45 21
General expense items,	278 48
Discounts on merchandise,	28 38

\$1,391 15

Less surplus merchandise found after last stock taking, 28 93

\$1,362 22

Received from general appropriation toward maintenance, 622 61

Net cost to industrial department, \$739 61

Account of sales and inventories: —

Sales of rugs,	\$1,166 05
Sales of art fabrics,	1,245 25
Sales of mops, etc.,	42 73

Total stock sales, \$2,454 03

Inventory (at retail price) Dec. 1, 1908, \$4,379 25

Additional merchandise found after stock taking, \$28 93

Finished goods received from Cambridge shops
to June 30, 1909, 2,667 53

2,696 46

\$7,075 71

Less stock sold, 2,454 03

Merchandise turned back to shops in July, \$4,621 68

Summer Salesroom at Manchester, Mass. (open July to September).

Cost of selling: —

Salaries to seeing assistants, ¹	\$20 00
Wages to blind assistants,	34 46
General expense items,	99 38
Net deficit on merchandise, ²	7 62

Cost to industrial department, \$161 46

¹ In addition, the Home Work Salesroom gave the services of its clerk; this salary is not charged to the industrial department.

² Total deficit of Industrial Department merchandise is \$8.82, less a surplus of \$1.20 on home work stock, leaving net loss to Industrial Department as \$7.62.

Sales:—

Rugs,	\$88 00	
Art fabrics,	205 45	
Mats,	20	
	<hr/>	\$293 65
Home work stock from Boston salesroom,		¹ 236 03
Home work products (baskets, stools, knitted goods), received on consignment,		¹ 171 25
		<hr/>
Total sales,		\$700 93

General Expense Account.

Salaries, — seeing,	\$1,291 19
Wages, — blind,	68 30
Sundry items,	217 13
	<hr/>
	\$1,576 62
Add net cost of telephone switchboard service for all depart- ments for one year,	497 89
	<hr/>
	\$2,074 51

¹ Not Industrial Department sales.

PLANTS AND FURNISHINGS.

ITEMS.	Mop Shop.	Rug Shop.	Art-fabrie Shop.	Broom Shops.	General Salesroom.	Manchester Salesroom.
Net value Dec. 1, 1908,	\$800 04	\$1,278 58	\$1,547 55	\$152 89	\$1,010 20	\$18 40
Additions Dec. 1, 1908, to Nov. 30, 1909,	214 25	203 44	81 12	351 10	25	3 81
Less cash sales,	\$1,014 29	\$1,482 02	\$1,628 67	\$503 99	\$1,010 45	-
	-	28 50	50 00	38	-	-
Less 10 per cent. depreciation on purchases to June 1, 1909,	-	\$1,453 52	\$1,578 67	\$503 61	-	-
Net value Nov. 30, 1909,	88 09	131 37	153 27	31 01	98 51	-
Total Depreciation of Plants.	\$926 20	\$1,322 15	\$1,425 40	\$472 60	\$911 94	\$22 21
Mop shop,						
Rug shop,						
Art Fabrie shop,						
Broom shop,						
General salesroom,						
Included in total cost of maintenance (see Statement of Results),						

ANALYSIS OF GENERAL EXPENSE ITEMS.

ITEMS.	Mop.	Rug.	Art Fabric.	Broom.	General Salesroom.	General Expense Account.
Advertising.	\$111 75	\$72 69	\$12 41	\$22 62	\$23 20	\$5 35
Cleaning and repairs (extra).	26 77	28 71	50 13	5 27	18 75	22 82
Equipment expense.	25 23	52 06	50 21	51 11	8 25	-
Express, cartage, freight.	486 19	173 90	51 65	154 42	50 85	2 75
Fares and travel.	197 68	231 49	294 41	16 17	65 86	6 70
Lighting (including motor power at broom and mop shops).	29 56	31 90	130 62	43 87	28 74	-
Postage.	27 35	7 50	63 12	5 10	10 66	11 50
Stationery and printing.	11 15	11 15	11 15	8 00	20 65	23 10
Sundries (including loss through sneak-thief at salesroom).	33 39	25 61	52 70	50 16	121 05	24 43
Supplies.	213 47	247 11	79 10	82 55	24 22	120 48
Coal.	12 80	9 60	69 50	12 80	-	-
Old telephone account.	-	-	-	-	5 63	-
	\$1,175 34	\$891 72	\$965 00	\$452 07	\$377 86	\$217 13

GENERAL SUMMING-UP OF RESULTS.

Summary of Operations.

Departments: —	Net Cost.
Mop shop,	\$3,053 83
Rug shop,	4,501 48
Art fabric shop,	3,794 40
Broom shop,	1,849 42
General salesroom,	739 61
Manchester salesroom,	161 46
General expense account,	2,074 51
	<hr/>
	\$16,174 71
Less interest on deposits, and cash surplus credited to profit and loss account,	27 91
	<hr/>
	\$16,146 80
Add depreciation on plants,	502 25
	<hr/>
	\$16,649 05
Now that the general salesroom has been closed, and all shop products turned back at the sell- ing price, there should be subtracted the amounts added to general loss of operation in 1906-07 and 1907-08. This was the difference between the cost and retail price of all mer- chandise sent to the salesroom from the shops.	
This difference was on Dec. 1, 1908,	\$858 69
Subtract merchandise credit from Home Work Department this year,	1 20
	<hr/>
	857 49
Leaving net cost of operation for the year,	<hr/> <u>\$15,791 56</u>

Condensed Statement of Results.

Total merchandise cash purchases,	\$23,215 16
Total cash purchases for plants,	853 97
Total labor, manufacturing and selling expense,	25,512 08
	<hr/>
	\$49,581 21
Total stock sales for the year,	\$32,484 47
Total sales of plant sundries,	78 88
Total advertising samples distributed,	19 84
	<hr/>
	\$32,583 19
Inventories: —	
November 30, 1909,	\$21,447 55
December 1, 1908,	20,541 84
Add gain in inventories,	<hr/> 905 71
Plants: —	
November 30, 1909,	\$5,080 50
December 1, 1908,	4,807 66
Add gain in plants,	<hr/> 272 84
	<hr/>
	33,761 74
	<hr/>
	\$15,819 47
Less interest on deposits, etc.,	27 91
	<hr/>
Net cost of operation,	<u>\$15,791 56</u>
Analysis of labor and selling expense: —	
Paid to blind: —	
Labor,	\$10,240 53
Commission on sales,	574 43
Royalty on sales,	280 96
Total to blind persons,	<hr/> \$11,095 92
Paid to seeing: —	
Labor,	\$7,542 51
Commission on sales,	1,091 94
	<hr/>
	8,634 45
General expense items,	6,404 32
	<hr/>
	\$26,134 69
Less receipts from general appropriation,	622 61
	<hr/>
	<u>\$25,512 08</u>

FINANCIAL CONDITION, NOV. 30, 1909.

Assets.

Accounts receivable: —

General,	\$4,323 98
Salesroom,	226 81
Special,	104 50
	<hr/> \$4,655 29

Inventories: —

	Unfinished Goods and Raw Material.	Finished Goods.	Total.
Mop shop,	\$3,955 73	\$2,803 16	\$6,758 89
Rug shop,	6,005 08	2,018 20	8,023 28
Art fabrie shop,	1,626 63	4,192 63	5,819 26
Broom shop,	691 87	149 84	841 71
Janitors' sup- plies,	—	4 41	4 41
	<hr/> \$12,279 31	<hr/> \$9,168 24	<hr/> 21,447 55

Plants: —

Mop shop,	\$926 20
Rug shop,	1,322 15
Art fabrie shop,	1,425 40
Broom shops,	472 60
General Salesroom account,	911 94
Manchester Salesroom account,	22 21
	<hr/> 5,080 50
	<hr/> \$31,183 34

Liabilities.

Accounts payable,	\$4,635 10
Due Industrial and Educational Aid, cash accounts,	1,012 68
	<hr/> 5,647 78

Net assets Nov. 30, 1909,	<u><u>\$25,535 56</u></u>
Net assets Dec. 1, 1908,	\$21,327 12
Capital invested 1908-09: —	
Appropriation for Industries,	20,000 00
	<hr/> \$41,327 12
Subtraet net assets Nov. 30, 1909,	<hr/> 25,535 56
Leaving net cost of operation for the year,	<u><u>\$15,791 56</u></u>

LENA E. MENDELSON,

Deputy Superintendent, Industrial Department.

APPENDIX E.

MOVEMENT FOR THE PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

Object. — To study the direct causes of preventable blindness; to initiate, in co-operation and consultation with medical, charitable and health authorities, such measures as may seem desirable, and to influence public opinion to the end that in future no person shall needlessly be added to the blind population of this State.

Promoted by the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind, in conference with the following persons: —

MR. JEFFREY R. BRACKETT, Director, School for Social Workers, Boston.
DR. FARRAR COBB, Superintendent, Massachusetts Charitable Eye and Ear Infirmary.

MISS FRANCES G. CURTIS, Massachusetts State Board of Charity.

DR. ROBERT L. DENORMANDIE, Physician to Out-Patients, Boston Lying-in Hospital; Assistant in Obstetrics, Harvard Medical School.

DR. GEORGE S. DERBY, Ophthalmic Surgeon, Carney Hospital.

DR. SAMUEL H. DURGIN, Chairman, Board of Health, Boston.

DR. ELWOOD T. EASTON, Assistant Ophthalmic Surgeon, Massachusetts Charitable Eye and Ear Infirmary.

DR. THEODORE W. GLOCKER, Director of Research, School for Social Workers.

MR. HENRY COPLEY GREENE, Field Worker, Movement for Prevention of Blindness.

MR. EDWARD T. HARTMAN, Secretary, Massachusetts Civic League.

MRS. MARY MORTON KEHEW, Treasurer, Massachusetts Association for Promoting the Interests of the Blind.

MRS. GRACE COLEMAN LATHROP, Director, Boston Nursery for Blind Babies; President, Blind Babies' Aid Society.

MR. WILLIAM H. PEAR, General Agent, Boston Provident Association.

MR. LEHMAN PICKERT, President, Federation of Jewish Charities, Boston.

DR. CHARLES P. PUTNAM, President, Association Charities of Boston; President, Massachusetts Infant Asylum.

DR. ANNA G. RICHARDSON, Visiting Surgeon, Vincent Memorial Hospital.

Dr. MARK W. RICHARDSON, Secretary, State Board of Health of Massachusetts.

Dr. MILTON J. ROSENAU, Department of Preventive Medicine, Harvard Medical School.

Dr. DAVID D. SCANNELL, Member, Boston School Committee.

Dr. JOHN P. SUTHERLAND, Dean, Boston University School of Medicine.

Mr. DAVID F. TILLEY, President, Particular Council, Society St. Vincent de Paul, Boston.

Dr. OLIVER F. WADSWORTH, Chairman, Committee appointed by the Massachusetts Medical Society "to consider what measures should be taken by the society to prevent the occurrence and secure the prompt and effective treatment of ophthalmia neonatorum."

Dr. HENRY P. WALCOTT, Chairman, State Board of Health of Massachusetts.

Mr. HENRY WESSLING, President, Catholic Federation of the Archdiocese of Boston.

Prof. CHARLES-E. A. WINSLOW, Department of Biology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

APPENDIX F.

Acts of 1906, Chap. 383.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section one of chapter forty-four of the Revised Laws, as amended by section one of chapter three hundred and twenty of the acts of the year nineteen hundred and five, is hereby further amended by inserting after the word "dollars," in the thirty-third line, the words:— *provided, however,* that no physical or mental condition which is capable of correction, or which renders the child a fit subject for special instruction at public charge in institutions other than the public day schools, shall avail as a defence under the provisions of this section unless it shall be made to appear that the defendant has employed all reasonable measures for the correction of the condition, or the suitable instruction of the child,—so as to read as follows:— *Section 1.* Every child between seven and fourteen years of age, and every child under sixteen years of age who cannot read at sight and write legibly simple sentences in the English language, shall attend some public day school in the city or town in which he resides during the entire time the public day schools are in session, subject to such exceptions as to children, places of attendance and schools as are provided for in section three of chapter forty-two and sections three, five and six of this chapter. The superintendent of schools or, if there is no superintendent of schools, the school committee, or teachers acting under authority of said superintendent or committee, may excuse cases of necessary absence. The attendance of a child upon a public day school shall not be required if he has attended for a like period of time a private day school approved by the school committee of such city or town in accordance with the provisions of the following section, or if he has been otherwise instructed for a like period of time in the branches of learning required by law to be taught in the public schools, or if he has already acquired such branches of learning, or if his physical or mental condition is such as to render such attendance inexpedient or impracticable. Every person having under his control a child as described in this section shall cause him to attend school as herein required; and if he fails for five day sessions or ten half day sessions within any period of six months while under such control to cause such child, whose physical or mental condition is not such as to render his attendance

at school harmful or impracticable, so to attend school, he shall, upon complaint by a truant officer and conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not more than twenty dollars: *provided, however*, that no physical or mental condition which is capable of correction, or which renders the child a fit subject for special instruction at public charge in institutions other than the public day schools, shall avail as a defence under the provisions of this section unless it shall be made to appear that the defendant has employed all reasonable measures for the correction of the condition, or the suitable instruction of the child. Whoever induces or attempts to induce a child to absent himself unlawfully from school, or employs or harbors a child who, while school is in session, is absent unlawfully from school shall be punished by a fine of not more than fifty dollars. [*Approved May 11, 1906.*]

APPENDIX G.

MASSACHUSETTS INDUSTRIES FOR THE BLIND, 383 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON.

The salesroom offers the following home and shop products of the blind: —

FOR THE COMFORT AND SANITATION OF THE HOUSE.

Mattresses. — Orders for manufacturing and renovating mattresses and pillows of all kinds.

Mops. — “Wundermops,” wet and dry, varying weights and lengths, with or without handles; sold at all large stores.

Cleaning Cloths. — Dish cloths of crash and netting; cleaning sets of honeycomb, domet and silk crash; canton flannel for silver; broom covers, plain and with ruffles; bleached and unbleached ironing-board covers and dusters.

General Housekeepers' Supplies. — Aprons; jelly bags and ice bags; face cloths, knitted and of Turkish towellings; holders, takers and protection sleeves; towels, — glass, crash, twilled crash, buck and roller.

Re-seating of Chairs. — Re-seating of every kind of chair, in cane, pith, splint and rush.

FOR HOUSE FURNISHINGS.

Cambridge Rugs. — Sold by representative houses in Boston, Springfield, Worcester, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Detroit and other cities.

Hand-woven Art Fabrics. — Of distinctive design and beautiful colors; sofa pillows; bed spreads; screen panels; covers for books, couches and tables; luncheon sets; portieres, window hangings and scarfs of all kinds; opera and sewing bags; aprons; dress and shirt-waist patterns; belts, card-cases, etc.

Baskets. — Waste baskets, garden baskets, trays, etc.

FOR WARMTH AND WEAR.

Knitted and Crocheted Articles. — Including baby blankets, bath mats, bed shoes and socks, gloves, helmets (for winter sports or sleeping out of doors), baby jackets, mittens of all kinds, shawls, sweaters and tights.

